

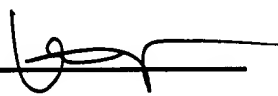
Furthermore, as noted in MPEP 2173.05(g), functional limitations are permissible where they "serve to precisely define present structural attributes of interrelated component parts of a claimed assembly." See also *In re Venezia*, 530 F2d 956, 189 USPQ 149 (CCPA 1976). Thus, Applicants respectfully reiterate that it is the fuel injector that is being claimed, and not the combination.

In view of the foregoing remarks, Applicants respectfully request the reconsideration and reexamination of this application and allowance of the pending claims 1-5 and 10-23. Applicants respectfully invite the Examiner to contact the undersigned at (202) 467- 7203 if there are any outstanding issues that can be resolved via a telephone conference.

EXCEPT for issue fees payable under 37 C.F.R. §1.18, the Commissioner is hereby authorized by this paper to charge any additional fees during the entire pendency of this application including fees due under 37 C.F.R. §§1.16 and 1.17 which may be required, including any required extension of time fees, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0310. This paragraph is intended to be a **CONSTRUCTIVE PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME** in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a)(3).

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: **October 5, 2001**
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